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This is UNEVALUATED Information Approved For Release 2008/01/15 : CIA-RDP83-00418R005100110002-0

Subject: The OF and CPUS Organizations in Bulgaria

Report No:

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Date of Report: 25 June 1956

OF (Fatherland Front)

1. The complete Bulgarian name of the Fatherland Front organization is "Edinna Otechestvenofrontska Politicheska Organizatsiya Otechestven Front" and this is abbreviated to EOPO-OF (hereinafter referred to simply as OF). This organization is subordinate to the Council of Ministries or the central committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party. The aim of the OF is to organize the mass of common people so as to permit the latter to help the activities of the Party and of the government.

2. The Sofia 4th district People's Council has two OF groups in the Purvo Strelbishte Quarter of Sofia and these are called the 35th OF group and the 35-A OF group; and this group had about 220 members. 25X1 25X1

two following administrative personnel of the 35-A OF:

a. (fnu) MILEV was the chief of the 35-A OF

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Classification

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FORM NO. 51-00
FEB 1948

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- Previously, in order to become a member of the OF, it was necessary for one not to have been engaged in any anti-Communist activity; however, since a few years ago anyone who applies to the OF for membership is easily accepted, because the aim of the OF is to organize the common people.

- Of being a member are that one is then not considered by the government as a harmful person, and when one wants to obtain a job, the OF gives him a certificate proving that he is an OF member. the advantages

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- Membership cards are issued to enable individuals to prove that they are members of the OF, and the payment of monthly dues is recorded on these cards. The monthly dues for members of the OF is between 20-50 leva; however, those who earn a high salary pay more than that.

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- The OF has one meeting a month, and at these meetings the members are subjected to Communist propaganda, since the government and the Party carry out their activities by means of the OF and similar organizations. Sometimes the backgrounds of Communist leaders are taught and courses are arranged in which the history of the Communist Party or the Soviet Union is taught.

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- The daily newspaper of the OF is called Otechestven Front.

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ORPS (General Worker's Professional Union)

The aim of the ORPS (Obsht Rabotnicheski Profesionalen Sayus; General Worker's Professional Union) is to organize the working class, and this organization is also subordinate to the Council of Ministries or the central committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

Everyone who has a job is eligible to be a member of the ORPS but one is not obligated to become a member; however, if one is not or has not been a member of the ORPS, employment managers will not give work to him. ORPS members have a right to 14-20 days annual vacation. In addition, the ORPS sends some of its members who are industrious and have invented something to the workers' resting houses or it gives them rewards. Membership cards are issued on which the payment of monthly dues is recorded. The monthly dues is 1% of a month's salary for those earning below 1,000 leva per month and 1½% to 2% for those earning above 1,000 leva per month. At least two meetings a month are held and at these, members are subjected to Communist propaganda. The daily newspaper of the ORPS is called Trud.

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